



The Clean Electricity and Transmission Acceleration Act of 2023
SEEC Clean Energy Deployment Task Force
Co-Chairs Reps. Sean Casten and Mike Levin

Statements of Support

Below are statements of support by different organizations, companies, and stakeholders in support of the Clean Electricity and Transmission Acceleration Act.

"The Clean Electricity and Transmission Acceleration Act is the most comprehensive attempt so far to deal with the chronic underinvestment in our grid that has left Americans vulnerable to dangerous blackouts and high energy costs. By making siting and permitting more efficient, as well as creating a transmission tax credit that would unlock long-term capital commitments in our energy infrastructure, this legislation is a welcome step forward in building a modern, interconnected grid."

- Christina Hayes, Executive Director – Americans for a Clean Energy Grid

"This is the right way to do permitting reform. We need to create a clean energy economy that's equitable and efficient, and this measure would go a long way toward accomplishing that goal. Too many want to steamroll communities and have these new projects repeat the environmental injustices of our past. That's a dead-end road. We need to maintain the integrity of our bedrock environmental laws while pushing forward with the clean energy that can benefit all of us."

- Christy Goldfuss, Chief Policy Impact Officer – NRDC (Natural Resources Defense Council)

"The United States' energy sector is in the midst of a major transformation that will dramatically reduce greenhouse gas emissions, accelerate economic growth and competitiveness, and reduce consumer energy costs. The Clean Electricity and Transmission Acceleration Act of 2023 comprehensively addresses the barriers to this transformation by growing the electric grid, reducing the red tape that stalls clean energy development on public lands and oceans, and modernizing the approach to regulating electric utilities and infrastructure. I urge Congress to adopt the CETA Act as soon as possible."

- Rich Glick, Former Chair – Federal Energy Regulatory Commission

"This is the moment to improve environmental and public health conditions in communities of Color or areas of low income by ensuring the grid is reliable and powered by clean, renewable energy. This year we've seen Members of Congress attempt to meet the moment with bills that offer speed when the need to consider and center communities is equally as important. Earlier this year, WE ACT, in partnership with national environmental organizations, released a [white paper](#) that offered thoughtful recommendations on how to meet the growing demand for clean electricity and ensure that communities are not harmed. We are pleased to see that Rep. Casten and Rep. Levin listened and responded to community calls for a strengthened engagement process, installation of experts to facilitate the relationship between communities and project sponsors, and the inclusion of environmental justice considerations in their legislation."

- Jasmine Jennings, Staff Attorney – WE ACT for Environmental Justice

“The American Clean Power Association commends Rep. Casten and Rep. Levin for working to address our nation’s significant transmission challenges by introducing the Clean Electricity & Transmission Acceleration Act (CETA). We must encourage and enable the buildout of high-impact transmission lines that will allow our country to strengthen grid reliability, increase resiliency to extreme weather events, and capture the benefits of low-cost clean power. ACP looks forward to continuing to work with the bill sponsors as CETA moves through the legislative process.”

- Jason Grumet, CEO – American Clean Power Association

“We applaud Representatives Casten and Levin for leading with a positive vision for what our clean energy future can and should be. Transitioning to clean energy is critical to fighting the climate crisis and reducing pollution, and improving our grids and transmission systems will help accelerate that transition. Simultaneously, these efforts must advance environmental justice so that we do not perpetuate the same harms that the fossil fuel industry has unfairly imposed upon communities of color and communities of low wealth, and we appreciate that this bill moves the ball forward on all of these urgently needed solutions.”

- Tiernan Sittenfeld, Senior Vice President of Government Affairs – League of Conservation Voters (LCV)

“At AES we continue to work to accelerate the energy transition to provide reliable, affordable and cleaner sources of electricity generation. The CETA Act is an important step in addressing some of the most pressing issues around transmission capacity and the diverse technologies that can deliver solutions at speed and scale. We commend the efforts of the SEEC Caucus on this thoughtful bill, which aims to reduce bottlenecks and improve planning of and connection to the transmission system, and look forward to continued discussions to ensure electricity remains affordable for all our customers.”

- AES

“Climate change requires urgent action, but it should not come at a cost of harming the communities already facing its disproportionate impacts. The Clean Electricity and Transmission Acceleration Act is the first step we need for a clean energy transition that balances urgency with a just and fair process for engaging stakeholders and communities in energy development. We thank Reps. Casten and Levin for this legislation and will work alongside them to ensure this legislation sets the stage for a clean energy transition grounded in equity and justice.”

- Stephen Schima, Senior Legislative Counsel – Earthjustice

“It’s great to see the leadership from the Clean Electricity & Transmission Acceleration Act sponsors on a bill that would provide critical support to both the clean energy transition and to the reliability of the power system on which almost all aspects of modern life depend. There is no transition without transmission.”

- Rob Gramlich, President – Grid Strategies

“The energy sector is facing a trifecta of challenges, all of which can all be addressed by speeding the transition to clean electricity and substantially building out our electricity transmission infrastructure: we need to tackle the climate crisis, add resilience to the grid in the face of increasing extreme weather events, and ensure affordable energy for all consumers. The Clean Electricity and Transmission Acceleration (CETA) Act of 2023 would equitably and swiftly bring renewable energy online by paving the way for and incentivizing the development of wind and other clean energy sources and meaningfully engaging communities in permitting processes for all energy infrastructure at the earliest stages.”

- Mahyar Sorour, Director of Beyond Fossil Fuels Policy – Sierra Club

"A significant buildout of the nation's transmission system is imperative to achieving a clean energy grid that will provide emissions reductions, reliability and resilience improvements, and cost savings. ACORE strongly supports the Clean Electricity and Transmission Acceleration (CETA) Act for its comprehensive approach to tackling the myriad of barriers to building a 21st century Macro Grid. The CETA Act offers much-needed solutions to enhance interregional transmission planning, facilitate cost allocation, streamline transmission permitting, establish a minimum transfer requirement, reform participant funding, and provide a standalone transmission investment tax credit. We applaud Representatives Casten and Levin for their leadership and look forward to working with members of Congress to advance this important and comprehensive legislation."

- José Zayas, Executive Vice President of Policy and Programs – American Council on Renewable Energy (ACORE)

“We must increase the capacity of our energy grid to electrify our entire economy, adopt cleaner energy sources and unlock the full potential of President Biden’s clean energy investments. The CETA Act will help new clean energy projects come online as quickly as possible by incentivizing the development of high-capacity, long-distance transmission lines. This work must be done by engaging early with communities to ensure meaningful public involvement, as well as tangible benefits for those communities, which are principles embraced by this bill. That will allow new transmission lines to come online quicker and with stronger community support.”

- Elizabeth Gore, Senior Vice President for Political Affairs - Environmental Defense Fund

“To combat the climate crisis and deploy clean energy five times faster than we are today, we must invest in transmission and grid infrastructure. The Clean Electricity and Transmission Acceleration Act will reduce the time it takes to get a clean energy project across the finish line, helping to keep costs down for ratepayers and improve grid reliability. We’re pleased to see this legislation move forward and urge members of Congress to support this thoughtful effort.”

- Abigail Ross Hopper, President and CEO – Solar Energy Industries Association (SEIA)

“To meet our climate pollution reduction goals and fully realize the potential of the Inflation Reduction Act, we need to accelerate clean energy deployment. The cost of inaction on climate is too great – we’re seeing that cost grow every day with more dangerous, destructive and deadly storms and higher health risks for families and communities in every state. I applaud leaders in Congress for taking steps to meet our climate pollution reduction and clean energy goals and incorporating measures to increase meaningful community engagement. The CETA Act offers a promising roadmap. Congress and the administration must keep pushing forward to meet the urgency of the moment; the needs of our clean energy future; and the administration’s climate, public health, and environmental justice commitments.”

- Margie Alt, Director – Climate Action Campaign

“The IRA is a transformative catalyst for clean energy deployment, but rules governing transmission development lag far behind what is needed to realize the bill’s full potential. CETA is an important effort towards addressing this lag and unlocking transmission development to enable a reliable and resilient energy future.”

- Andrew Wells, Senior Vice President of Federal Affairs – Invenergy

“Our nation’s power grid has been neglected for far too long and is facing mounting threats from climate-induced extreme weather. CETA will allow us to make vital upgrades to stabilize the grid while also boosting our capacity to deliver clean energy to communities nationwide. These kinds of investments, like the transmission tax credit, are necessary for the long haul, which is why Evergreen is proud to endorse CETA and is thrilled to see SEEC leading the way to an affordable, reliable clean energy transition.”

- Charles Harper, Senior Power Sector Policy Lead – Evergreen Action

“The CETA Act outlines a set of substantive solutions that address the critical need to shore up the nation’s electric grid, improve its reliability, meet growing demand, and provide access to clean, lower-cost energy through expanded transmission; a number of these provisions align with CEBA’s permitting reform principles. CEBA welcomes the CETA Act’s introduction and encourages bipartisan support for strong transmission provisions in any permitting reform measure. Permitting reform would help expand transmission that can enhance grid resilience and reduce customer costs. Large energy customers join the growing call for federal reforms to make the nation’s electric grid more resilient and reliable.”

- Bryn Baker, Senior Director of Market and Policy Innovation – Clean Energy Buyers Association

"Our aging, undersized, and unreliable electricity grid is the biggest roadblock to a clean energy future. This bill will clear away the regulatory hurdles that are slowing down the creation of 21st century grid, without undermining environmental protections. If it passes, we will all breathe cleaner air, sooner.”

- Veronica Ung-Kono, Clean Energy Transmission Policy Specialist – National Wildlife Federation

“Enel supports the “Clean Electricity and Transmission Acceleration Act” or the “CETA Act of 2023.” Among its many actions, the bill would amend the Federal Power Act to improve interregional transmission-related planning and cost allocation, establish minimum levels of electricity transfer capabilities between regions, streamline the process for designating national interest transmission lines, set up a new FERC Office of Electricity Transmission, and facilitate clean energy development on public lands. The bill would also amend the Internal Revenue Code and establish a new 30% investment tax credit for certain types of transmission projects. New transmission investment is critically important to mitigate the current or anticipated future electric energy transmission capacity constraints or congestion that unnecessarily increases consumer costs or is urgently needed to improve grid reliability and resilience. New transmission investment is also critical to foster new economic development opportunities in rural communities.”

- Paolo Romanacci, Head – Enel Green Power North America

“We have an opportunity to take bold action to embrace a cleaner future for all, but we do not have the luxury of time if we are to prevent the worst effects of climate change. CETA would strike a balance between the need to quickly deploy clean energy and transmission to combat the climate crisis with the need to protect public lands, wildlife, and communities. Streamlining clean energy expansion efforts must prioritize early and meaningful engagement with stakeholders and community leaders to ensure that new projects are sited responsibly for people and habitat. Audubon would like to thank Representatives Casten and Levin for their work and leadership on this important legislation.”

- Felice Stadler, Vice President of Government Affairs – National Audubon Society

“The reforms proposed by CETA will strengthen grid reliability and enable projects that will reduce greenhouse gas emissions from the energy sector. For these reasons, San Diego Community Power (SDCP) thanks Congressman Levin and Congressman Casten for their leadership in addressing the climate crisis and environmental justice. Our national grid must be prepared to accommodate an ever-increasing amount of renewable energy projects and utilize a broad array of technology to maximize existing transmission capacity. CETA is integral to that effort, which SDCP fully endorses.”

- Karin Burns, Chief Executive Officer – San Diego Community Power

“We need to rapidly and fairly transition to a renewable energy economy and the CETA Act is a strong starting point for approaching transmission and renewable energy on public lands. Critically, this bill includes elements of the Environmental Justice for All Act that strengthen NEPA and it recognizes that smart from the start land planning is essential to both a speedy and just build out.”

- Justin Meuse, Government Relations Director – The Wilderness Society

CETA is additionally supported by: Grid United, CTC Global, VEIR, AMP (Advancing Modern Powerlines) Coalition